

Message Text

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TAGS: TPHY OCON UR US

SUBJECT: US-USSR WORLD OCEAN AGREEMENT: GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS

WORKING GROUP: FIRST JOINT MEETING

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO NOAA

NOAA FOR MARTINEAU FROM SCICOUNS

1. THE FIRST MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP IN MARINE GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS UNDER THE US-USSR AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN THE STUDIES OF THE WORLD OCEAN WAS CONCLUDED ON FEBRUARY 7, 1975 AT ONE P.M. BY A SIGNING CEREMONY IN ACADEMICIAN VINOGRADOV'S OFFICE AT THE USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. THE RECORD OF DISCUSSION WAS SIGNED FOR THE U.S. BY DR. ARTHUR E. MAXWELL, PROVOST OF THE WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE, AND FOR THE USSR BY PROFESSOR G.B. UDINTSEV, INSTITUTE OF OCEANOLOGY, USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, THE U.S. AND USSR CO-CHAIRMEN RESPECTIVELY.

2. AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO (A) RECOMMEND FOR APPROVAL BY THE JC THE CONTINUATION OF FOUR EXISTING JOINT PROGRAMS (B) TO RECOMMEND FOR APPROVAL BY THE JC
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THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TWO NEW PROGRAMS. THE SOVIET

OFFICIALS DID NOT AGREE TO RECOMMEND FOR APPROVAL A THIRD PROPOSAL, BUT THEY PERMITTED THE SUBMISSION OF THE PROPOSAL FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT JC MEETING.

3. RECOMMENDED FOR CONTINUATION IS THE TRANS-ATLANTIC GEOPHYSICAL TRAVERSE PROGRAM: (A) THE FIELD PHASE, CARRIED OUT ABOARD THE OCEANOGRAPHER AND AKADEMIK KURCHATOV SHIPS, IS NOW NEARING COMPLETION; (B) JOINT INVESTIGATIONS ABOARD VEMA, KANA KEOKI, GILLIS AND ATLANTIS II OF THE WESTERN PART OF THE GEOTRAVERSE ARE PLANNED; (C) ALSO A SOVIET SHIP WILL MAKE SEISMIC REFLECTION MEASUREMENTS IN 1976 BEFORE; (D) JOINT DATA PROCESSING AND PUBLICATION OF RESULTS.

4. FURTHER RECOMMENDED FOR CONTINUATION IS THE ONGOING PROGRAM OF STUDY OF THE MORPHOLOGY, STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION OF THE SECOND LAYER OF THE OCEAN FLOOR AND THE ORIGIN OF MAGNETIC ANOMALIES WHICH SHOULD AID THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS LAYER. THE LATE 1975 STUDIES ARE TO FOCUS ON NORWEGIAN/GREENLAND SEAS AND THE NORTHERN SHATSKIY RISE IN THE PACIFIC. THE SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS: FEBRUARY/MARCH, NORTH ATLANTIC; APRIL/MAY 1975, SOUTH ATLANTIC; JULY/AUGUST 1975, NORTHWEST PACIFIC; AND, IN 1976 NORTH ATLANTIC (NEAR ICELAND).

5. THE THIRD PROGRAM RECOMMENDED FOR CONTINUATION IS THE STUDY OF NORTHWEST PACIFIC PLATE DYNAMICS OF THE CONVERGING MARGINS OF THE KURIL/KAMCHATKA/ALEUTIAN AREA WHICH HAS A 150 MILLION YEAR OLD TECTONIC HISTORY. THE SOLUTION OF SCIENTIFIC PROBLEMS REQUIRES ALSO GEOLOGICAL AND GEOPHYSICAL INVESTIGATION IN THE BERING AND OKHOTSK SEAS BEHIND THE ISLAND ARCS AND A CLOSE INTEGRATION OF LAND AND OCEAN GEOLOGICAL AND GEOPHYSICAL DATA. THE 1975 PLANS INCLUDE JOINT WORK IN THE KURIL/KAMCHATKA REGION, THE ALEUTIAN TRENCH AND THE EMPEROR SEAMOUNTS AREAS. THE 1976 PLAN IS FURTHER UNCLASSIFIED

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WORK ON THE SHATSKIY RISE. THE CRUSIES ARE TO BE FOLLOWED BY JOINT DATA ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION.

6. THE FOURTH PROGRAM IS THE AUGMENTATION OF THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM OF DEEP SEA DRILLING (IPOD) THROUGH THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING DRILL SITES: A DEEP HOLE ON THE SHATSKIY RISE TO ELUCIDATE THE JURASSIC PERIOD; ANOTHER HOLE CLOSE TO THE ARCS

ON THE OCEAN RIDGE SYSTEM TO GAIN INFORMATION OF OCEAN CRUST DEVELOPMENT AND TO COLLECT DATA FOR COMPARISON WITH OPHIOLITE BODIES FOUND ON LAND.

7. THE FIRST AREA SUGGESTED FOR NEW STUDIES IS SEDIMENT DYNAMICS FOR THE PURPOSE OF GAINING INFORMATION ON PALEO-OCEANOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS. PRESENT EXPERIMENTAL PRACTICES OF IPOD LACK COLLECTION OF INFORMATION ON BOTTOM WATER CIRCULATION AND ITS EFFECT ON SEDIMENT EROSION AND TRANSPORTATION. WITHOUT SUCH INFORMATION A MEANINGFUL ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF CORE RESULTS IS DIFFICULT. OPTICAL STUDIES OF NEPHELOID OCEAN LAYERS HAS ALSO BEEN SUGGESTED. A PANEL OF NEPHELOMETRISTS, OCEAN OPTICIANS AND SEDIMENT TRANSPORT SPECIALISTS SHOULD CONVENE BY SEPTEMBER 1975 TO PLAN JOINT WORK.

8. THE SECOND NEWLY RECOMMENDED TOPIC IS A LONG-TERM STUDY OF LITHOSPHERIC PLATES THROUGH DEEP SOUNDINGS OR OTHER METHODS OF DEEP SEISMIC PENETRATION OF THE OCEAN LITHOSPHERE AT THE BOUNDARY OF THE PLATE AND THE ASTHENOSPHERE. SUCH STUDY COULD PROVIDE BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF PLATE MOBILITY, OROGENY, VOLCANISM, EARTHQUAKES AND HYDROTHERMAL MAGMATIC PROCESSES. THIS PROJECT COULD BE PART OF THE INTERNATIONAL GEODYNAMICS PROJECT. A STUDY PHASE WAS OUTLINED. IT SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY JUNE 1976. THE DEVELOPMENT PHASE WILL LAST TILL JUNE 1978. ONLY IF COST AND FEASIBILITY EVALUATION ARE POSITIVE SHOULD A MULTI-YEAR PROGRAM FOLLOW.

9. LASTLY, THE SOVIET PART OF THE GROUP DID NOT UNCLASSIFIED

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REPEAT NOT ENDORSE A U.S. PROPOSAL FOR U.S. AND USSR AIRCRAFT TO LAND FOR REFUELING AND CREW REST AT HOST COUNTRY FACILITIES BORDERING THE ARCTIC OCEAN AND TO EXPAND THE PROGRAMS TO INCLUDE COOPERATION IN THE ARCTIC OCEAN. THE SOVIETS POINTED OUT THAT THE ARCTIC OCEAN REPRESENTS A BRAND NEW ELEMENT UNDER THE AGREEMENT.

10. ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE MEETING THERE WAS ALSO A ONE-HOUR SHOWING OF A FILM DEPICTING AKADEMIK KURCHATOV CRUISES. SPECIAL EMPHASIS WAS GIVEN TO COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. AND JAPAN. SOME OF THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE SOUNDTRACK ACCOMPANYING THE FIRST-RATE CAMERA WORK DESERVED THE APOLOGETIC REMARK OF UDINTSEV ABOUT "PROGAGANDA".

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